



TMRA Amateur Radio Beacon

March 2011



The Prez Sez

Our Hamfest is less than 3 weeks away. Rita, WB8FBG sent out a letter a few weeks ago asking for volunteers, and I'm repeating her requests; Meredith Party Rentals will deliver tables to OCC Friday March 18 and we'll be ready to set-up tables around 9:00am Saturday morning so that everything will be in place when the vendors start arriving Saturday afternoon. Tom KB8PAI is the person to contact to volunteer to help with table set-up, and please keep in mind that after the Hamfest, Sunday afternoon – we have to take down the tables and clean up. The OCC people were very impressed last year at the way we left the rooms after all the activities were over.

Saturday afternoon Steve, W8TER will be needing members to help with security at the doors once the vendors start arriving, and we need security at the doors Sunday during the Hamfest. Rita is in charge of tickets, and also needs volunteers to man the ticket sales tables Sunday morning. Many vendors appreciate help bringing in their stuff, and again this year we'll offer help by having carts available. Chris, KC8UFV is doing talk-in and also would appreciate help. James, WD8IOL would appreciate help in guiding vendors to their table locations when they arrive. The more members we have helping in many ways makes for smoother running and happier vendors. This year we'll have discount coupons for the food service for all members who volunteer at least an hour of their time at the Hamfest.

Saturday March 26th is SKYWARN® training at St. Luke's Hospital, but it is also the NW Ohio District Science Day held at the UT Student Union on main campus. TMRA gives 3 awards for entries in the general category of electronics and computers, and UT expects us to provide judges for these entries – so I'm asking for 1 or 2 members in addition to myself to volunteer as judges. There's a "mandatory" meeting of judges at 8:00am that morning in the Student Union (from past experiences it's mandatory only in that you get your judge's badge and the names of the students entered for the awards then, so it's not necessary to be there at exactly 8:00am). Some years they have juice, coffee, Danish, and donuts for the judges – last year they didn't. Judging starts at 9:00am and may take an hour or two. If you're willing to help, let me know (wd8mxr@gmail.com) – UT expects us to submit names before March 26th.

73, Brian, WD8MXR

Weaver's Words –

- Your Help Critically Needed

Your prompt help to defend one of our amateur bands is urgently requested. Please read and follow through on the requested action.

You may have already heard that our 440 MHz band is being attacked by a bill introduced into the US House of Representatives. In its current form, HR 607 would take away the 420-440 MHz segment that is presently allocated to Amateur Radio on a secondary basis as our 70 cm band. Along with certain other segments not allocated to Amateur Radio, the 420-440 MHz segment would become part of a spectrum “give back” involved in allocating 758-763 and 788-793 MHz for a Public Safety broadband network.

The concept of this network has merit. Everyone wants first responders to have the radio systems they need in order to protect themselves and us. However, there is absolutely no need to take our 440 MHz band in making it happen. We need to let our US Representatives know we oppose the current form of HR 607.

To let your US Representative know you oppose the present bill, go to <http://www.kd4pyr.net/hamletter.htm> Insert your call sign where indicated and follow the simple instructions. The name and address of your US Representative will automatically be put into the letter, as will your name and address. It will be ready to be printed and signed.

IMPORTANT: Please be sure to observe the following once you have printed your letter:

- Be sure to sign it. Letters without a handwritten signature are not effective.

- Signed letters can be sent by fax or postal mail. They can also be scanned into PDF format and e-mailed as a file attachment. Postal mail: John Chwat, Chwat & Co., Suite 103, 625 Slaters Lane, Alexandria, VA 22314. E-mail: john.chwat@chwatco.com. Fax number: (703) 684-7594.

- Do not send this letter or any letter about HR 607 to your US Senators at this time. The bill is only in the US House of Representatives. Letters sent on HR 607 to US Senators will merely waste their time and demonstrate lack of knowledge of how our system of government works.

WHY SHOULD the letter be mailed to John Chwat? There are two reasons. First, all postal mail to members of the US House (and other government bodies) is delayed 6 to 8 weeks in being searched for hazardous materials that may be included in them. Second, Mr. Chwat will increase the value of your individual letter by combining it with others and delivering the stack of letters directly to your Representative's office. This manner of delivery makes a particular impact on our Congressmen.

If you feel it necessary to mail your letter directly to your Representative, do it. However, please also send a signed copy of it to Mr. Chwat for the reasons outlined above.

For your information, the letter generating utility will be open for use by any US amateur for at least a couple of weeks.

Thanks for your help and support in this important effort. Please let me know if you have any questions or suggestions.

73,

Jim

PS: Thanks to Rick Haltermon, KD4PYR for developing the letter generating utility. He was aided by Trey Garlough, N5KO who wrote the initial program. Rick continues to add flesh to the program.

Jim Weaver, K8JE, Director
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ARRL, The national association for Amateur Radio

Remember These Important Dates

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Saturday, March 19th an advanced SKYWARN® training session will be held in Goshen, Indiana. A \$30 fee is charged for this session.

Saturday, March 19th is the setup day for the TMRA Hamfest at OCC. Volunteer to assist with this important event.

Sunday, March 20st is the 55th annual TMRA Hamfest. Volunteers needed for this day too.

Annual Lucas County SKYWARN® training is scheduled for March 26th beginning at 10 a.m. The location is in St. Luke's Hospital Auditorium. Training is needed every two years. After two years NWS drops participants from the list.

The TMRA Tech Classes are scheduled for April 2nd and April 16th. Tentative location will be the training building behind the 911 center.

April 5th and May 10th is the dry run and graded exercise events at Davis Besse Nuclear Power Plant. Operators will be needed at Clay High School and Eisenhower School. Operators may be needed at the Red Cross building.

The Glass City Marathon will be April 17th. Many operators are needed for this event.

On Wednesday, April 20th there is a drill by the Ohio Department of Health (ODH). It begins at 6 a.m. Traffic will need to be passed between the EMA building and the hospitals communication centers.

Happy Trails is June 18th starting at 9 a.m.

June 19th is the Maumee Bay Triathlon.

On August 13 and 14th are the Super Kids and Sylvania Triathlon events. They begin at 7:30 a.m.

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Your Opportunity To Help With The 2011 Hamfest

There are many opportunities for you to actively participate in our 2011 hamfest. Look below, check and see where you would like to work, then call your leader.

Sit down duties in mostly one hour shifts - Sunday

Tickets = 14 people - Rita WB8FBG 734-755-9936 7:30 AM thru Noon.

Security – Saturday and Sunday unalarmed doors monitors, ticket door checkers, also handing out cards to Owens Students showing ID = 10 people - Steve – W8TER 419-367-1200

Information desk = 5 people - Tom KB8PAI 419-724-8672

Other duties in two hour shifts – Saturday or Sunday

Runners with carts = 12 people (minimum) - Mike – WA8SYD 419-699-1390

300 Table physical set up on Saturday = 20 people – James - WD8IOL - 419-382-4233

300 Table physical tear down and clean up on Sunday = 20 people

Talk-in Sun = 3 people Chris – KC8UFV 419-350-3314

Talk-in Sat Eve = 2 people Chris – KC8UFV 419-350-3314

VE Testing (40 applicants) = 10 people - Steve - KC8TVW 419-467-3734

Add them up – 96 - that's a lot a people needed.

Please do your part and make this year's Hamfest even better than last year's.

TMRA Bus To Dayton

Call Mike, WA8SYD, to reserve a nice comfortable seat on the annual TMRA bus trip to Dayton on Saturday, May 21. You will arrive at the Hamvention® as the gates are opening and leave at closing time. Lots of room on the bus to bring back all the stuff you can buy. You can call Mike at 419-6691390 for more info.

THE TOLEDO MOBILE RADIO ASSOCIATION P.O. BOX 9673, TOLEDO, OH. 43697-9673

President, Brian, WD8MXR; Vice-President, Steve, W8TER; Secretary, Ron, N8RLH;

Treasurer, Brenda, KB8IUP; Public Information Officer, Steve, KC8TVW.

Board Members: Chris, KC8UFV; Joe, KJ0EYT; Tom, KB8PAI; Rita, WB8FBG; Dan, KE8UE.

TMRA Home Page www.tmrahamradio.org Webmaster, Tom, KB8PAI.

TMRA W8HHF Repeaters; 147.270+, 224.140-, 442.850+ (TMRA 2 meter, 220, and 440 repeaters operate with a 103.5 "PL", or a touch-tone access code of 1-2-3) Please "ID" before using phone-patch.

(10 digit dialing, *up and #down)

TMRA W8HHF Packet BBS Frequencies 51.780, 145.690, 223.480, 441.060

The TMRA meets at 7:30 PM every second Wednesday in

The Electrical Industry Building, Lime City Rd. Rossford, Ohio.

The TMRA Q & A net meets every Sunday night at 7:30 PM, followed by the TMRA "Information & Swap 'N-Shop" net at 8:30 on the 147.270+ repeater. All amateurs are invited to check-in.